Preventive Medicine Operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Operation Joint Forge

Sep 98 - Mar 99

Outline of Talk

- Pre-deployment
- During deployment
- Post-deployment (in theater of operations)
- After return to home station
- Lessons learned

Pre-deployment

- Immunizations/DNA
- PPD/HIV in previous 12 months
- Health threat brief

Deployment

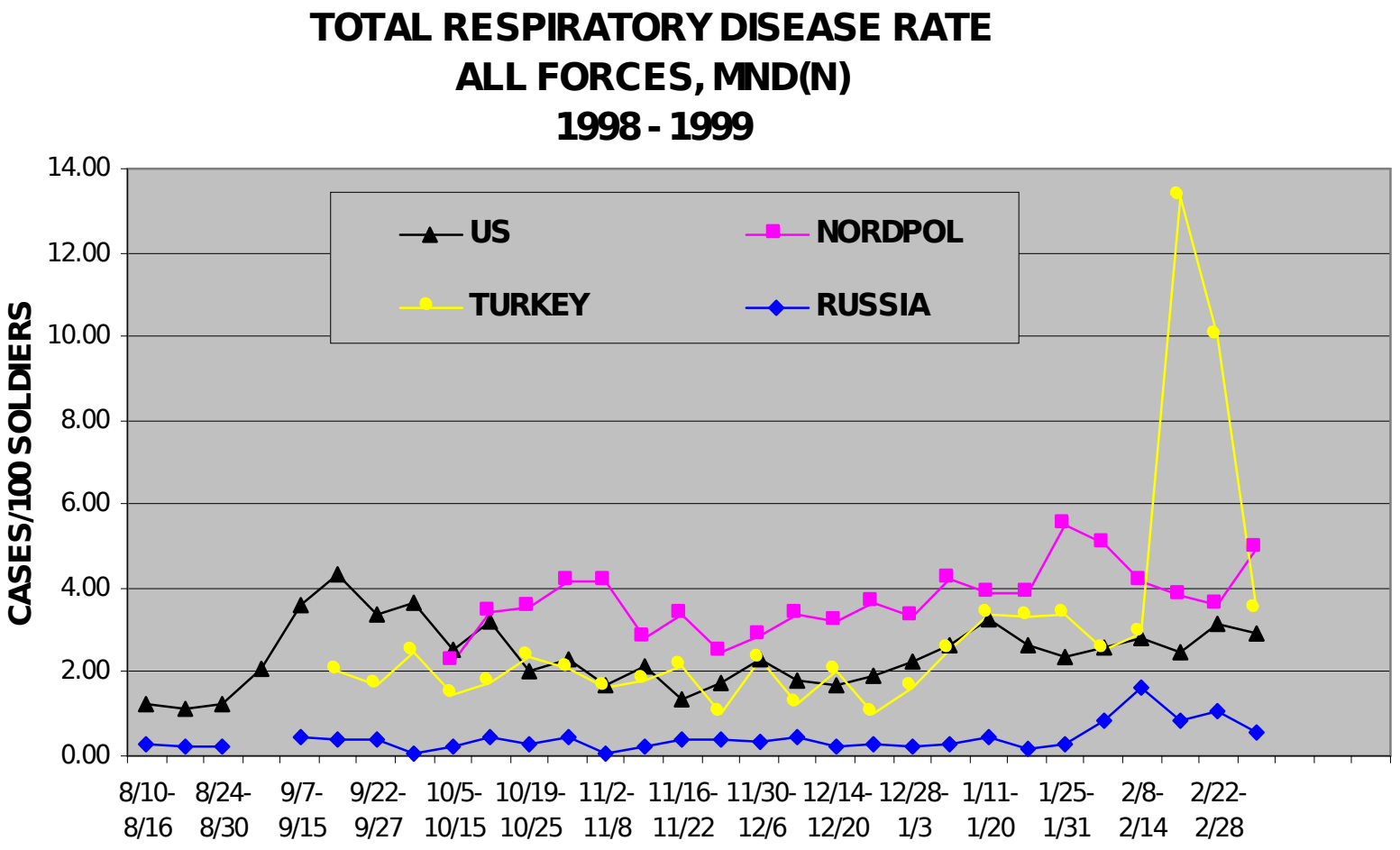
- Contractor dining facilities
  - Hand-washing sinks at entrance
  - Bottled water; disposable plates/utensils
- Base Camp Assessment Team (BCAT) monthly inspections
  - Food service Consumable water
  - Troop billeting Barbershops
- Combat Stress Control teams

Deployment (cont.)

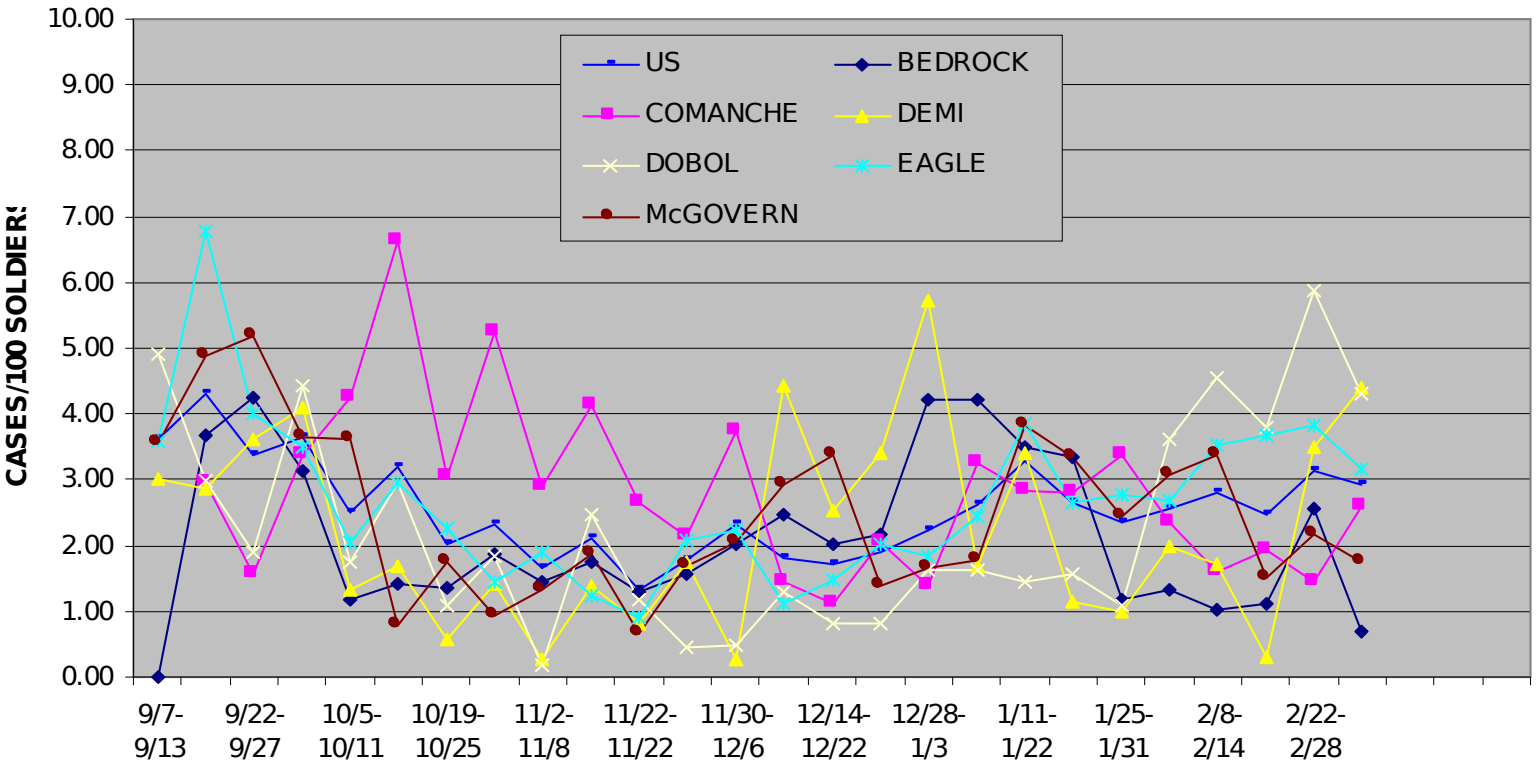
- DNBI surveillance
- Public health programs
- Anthrax vaccine immunization program (AVIP)
- R&R

DNBI Surveillance

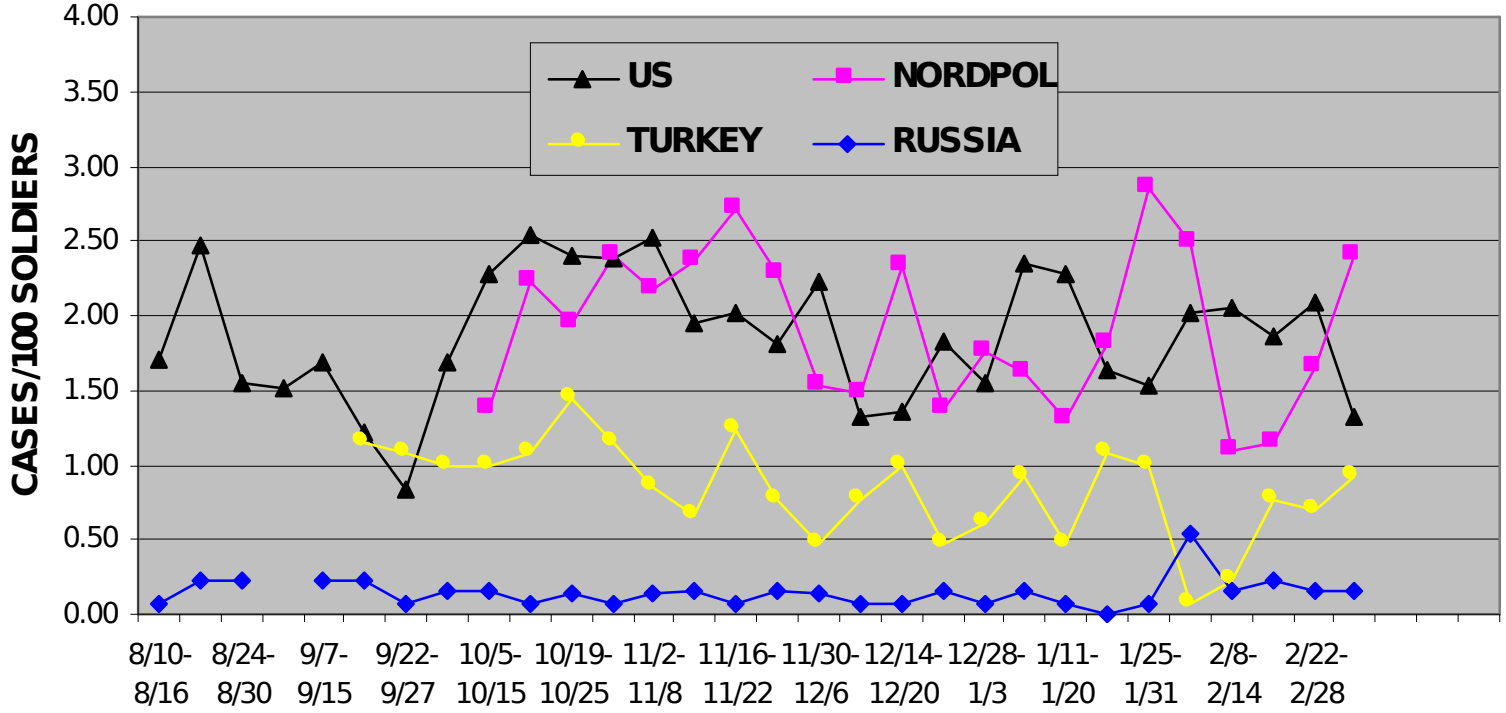
- Weekly reporting from base camps
  - Multinational Division (North) - MND(N)
  - US
- Trends analyzed
- Preventive interventions developed and implemented


TOTAL RESPIRATORY DISEASE RATE
ALL FORCES, MND(N)
1998 - 1999
CASES/100 SOLDIERS
14.00
12.00
10.00
8.00
6.00
4.00
2.00
0.00
US
NORDPOL
TURKEY
RUSSIA
8/10-8/16
8/24-8/30
9/7-9/15
9/22-9/27
10/5-10/15
10/19-10/25
11/2-11/8
11/16-11/22
11/30-12/6
12/14-12/20
12/28-1/3
1/11-1/20
1/25-1/31
2/8-2/14
2/22-2/28

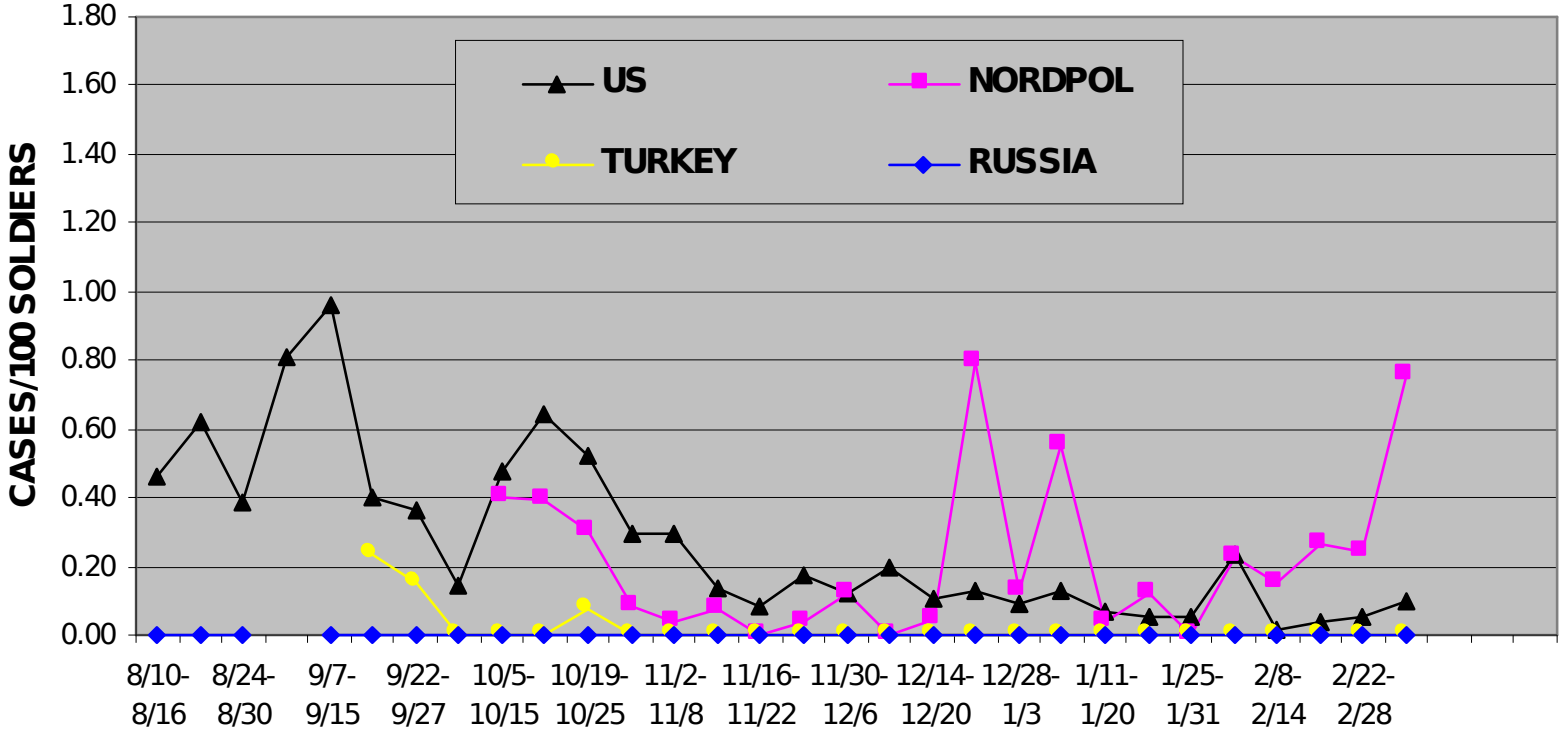
WEEKLY REPIRATORY ILLNESS RATE, US FORCES 1998 - 1999



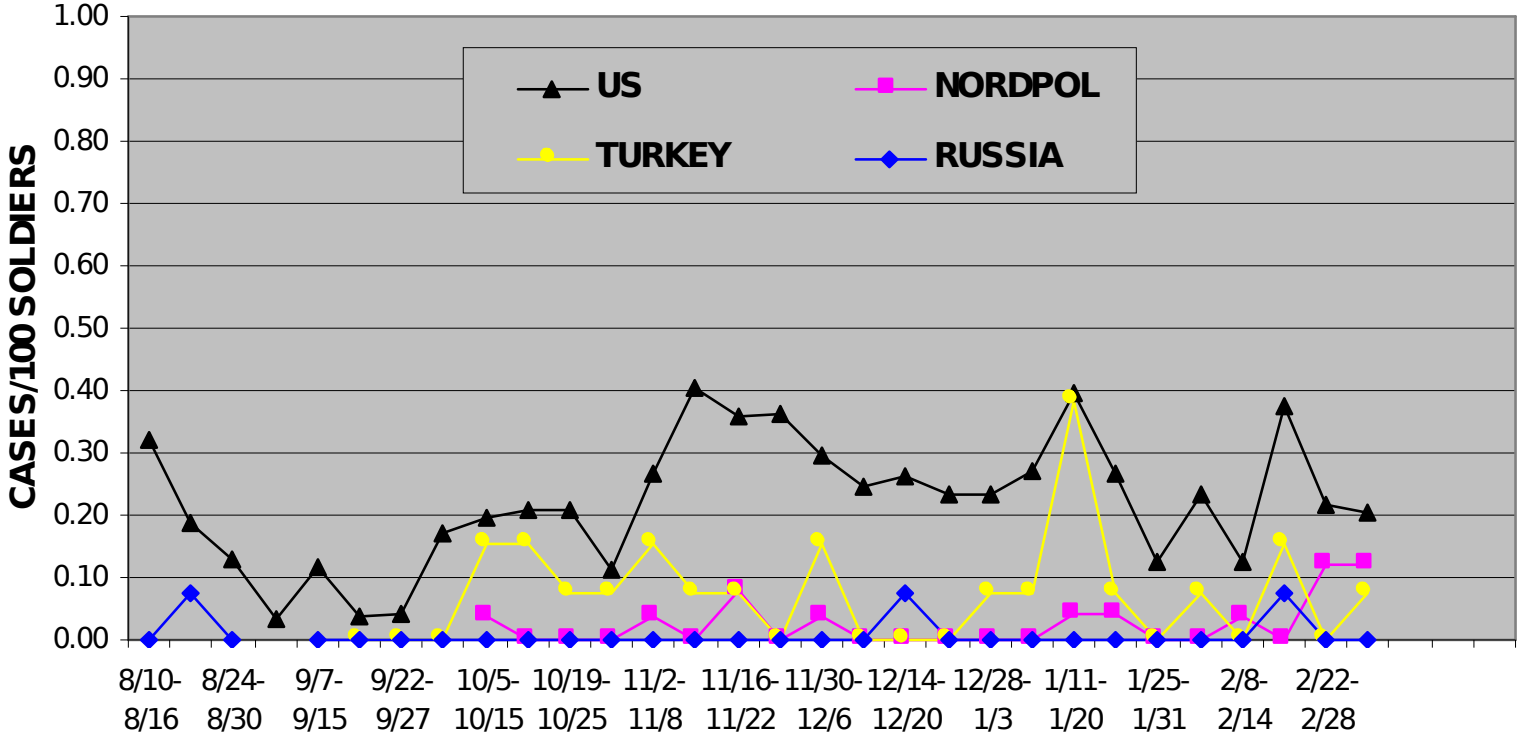
TOTAL ORTHOPEDIC/INJURY RATE
ALL FORCES, MND(N)
1998 - 1999



DIARRHEA & INTESTINAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES RATE
ALL FORCES, MND(N)
1998 - 1999



NEW PSYCHIATRIC VISIT RATE
ALL FORCES, MND(N)
1998 - 1999



Public Health Programs

- Cold weather injury prevention
- Influenza vaccination/surveillance
- Reportable disease
- STD
- Rabies

AVIP

- Continuation of series only
- Soldiers identified by “scrubbing” of OJF G1 database to MEDPROS database
- Input into MEDPROS over WWW

R&R

- 4-day passes to Budapest, Jahorina
- 1-day tours to Sarajevo, Tuzla
- Food safety
- STD
- Tattoos

Post-deployment

- In the OJF theater of operations, at end of deployment
- Health threat brief/fact sheet
- Health assessment
- Mental health questionnaire
- Specialty consultation as needed

After Return from Deployment

- PPD in 3-12 months
- HIV per service regulations

Lessons Learned

- Hand washing facilities are key to preventing disease
- Regular BCAT inspections ensure maintenance of hygienic standards
- DNBI surveillance provides vital signs of the health of the command

Lessons Learned (cont.)

- Command emphasis is needed for correcting unhealthy trends
- Contractors, including local civilians, contribute to prevention of illness
- Veterinarians, environmental science officers, and preventive medicine physicians work together to ensure the health of the command

Questions/comments